

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph appearing at page 1, lines 4-7, and insert therefor the following paragraph:

E --This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/024,592, filed on February 17, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,207,861, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/070,456, filed January 5, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 51-53 and 64-72 without disclaimer or prejudice to prosecution in one or more continuation or divisional applications. Please amend claim 16 as indicated in Appendix A. For the Examiner's convenience, the full set of pending claims is set forth in Appendix A. As required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii), a marked up copy of the amended claim showing the changes made is attached hereto as Appendix B.

REMARKS

Claim 16 has been amended, and claims 51-53 and 64-72 have been canceled. As further elaborated below, no new matter is introduced by way of this amendment. Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 16-22 and 54-63 will be pending in the application, with claims 54-63 being withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to nonelected inventions.

Applicants acknowledge provisional election of the species wherein: the scaffold precursor is a fused ring system; the reactive group on the scaffold precursor is an acid chloride; the peripheral moiety is a compound which includes a primary or secondary amino group, which reacts with the scaffold precursor to form an amide; and the first biomolecule is a protein. Claims 16-22 read on the elected species.